

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Raymond J. Beffa

Serial No.: 10/600,148

Filed: June 19, 2003

For: METHOD IN AN INTEGRATED
CIRCUIT (IC) MANUFACTURING
PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING AND
REDIRECTING IC'S MIS-PROCESSED
DURING THEIR MANUFACTURE

Confirmation No.: 6251

Examiner: P. Assouad

Group Art Unit: 2857

Attorney Docket No.: 2269-3040.5US
(96-0970.05/US)

Notice of Allowance Mailed:

February 28, 2005

NOTICE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mail Mailing Label Number: EL994847707US

Date of Deposit with USPS: May 26, 2005

Person making Deposit: Steve Wong

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

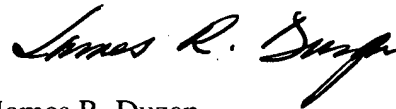
Applicant submits herewith Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal for the above-captioned application and a check in the amount of \$30.00 in payment therefor plus five (5) copies of the patent when issued. Applicant previously paid an issue fee, publication fee, and extra copies fee for this matter, and a Request to Apply Previously Paid Issue Fee to Issue Fee Required by New Notice of Allowance is enclosed.

Serial No.: 10/600,148

Also, enclosed is an Amendment Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.312(a) (13 pages), plus attached Replacement Sheet of Drawings (1 sheet) and Annotated Sheet Showing Changes Made (1 sheet); Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance (4 pages); Fee Addressee for Receipt of PTO Notices Relating to Maintenance Fees (2 pages); and Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (3 pages), Check No. 7861 in the amount of \$180.00, Form PTO/SB/08, and copy of cited reference (1 document).

Applicant understands that no additional fees are required. However, if the Office determines that any comparison fees or other additional fees are required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fees to TraskBritt Deposit Account No. 20-1469. A copy of this Transmittal Letter is enclosed for deposit account charging purposes.

Respectfully submitted,



James R. Duzan
Registration No. 28,393
Attorney for Applicant(s)
TRASKBRITT
P.O. Box 2550
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2550
Telephone: 801-532-1922

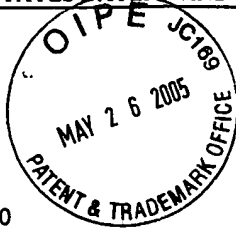
Date: May 26, 2005
JRD/ps:lmh

Enclosures: Part B - Issue Fee Transmittal
Check No. 21753 in the amount of \$30.00
Copy of Transmittal Letter
Request to Apply Previously Paid Issue Fee to Issue Fee Required by New Notice
of Allowance, with attached copy of Decision Granting Petition (3 pages)
Amendment Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.312(a) (13 pages), plus attached
Replacement Sheet of Drawings (1 sheet) and Annotated Sheet Showing
Changes Made (1 sheet)
Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance (4 pages)
Fee Addressee for Receipt of PTO Notices Relating to Maintenance Fees (2 pages)
Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (3 pages)
Check No. 7861 in the amount of \$180.00 (Supp IDS fee)
Form PTO/SB/08, with copy of cited reference (1 document)



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov



TRASK BRITT
P O BOX 2550
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84110

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FEB 17 2005

TRASKBRITT, P.C.

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of
Raymond J. Beffa
Application No. 10/600,148
Filed: June 19, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 2269-3040.5US
(96-0970.05/US)

:
:
: DECISION GRANTING PETITION
: UNDER 37 CFR 1.313(c)(2)
:

This is a decision on the petition, filed February 4, 2005, under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(2) to withdraw the above-identified application from issue after payment of the issue fee.


The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application is withdrawn from issue for consideration of a submission under 37 CFR 1.114 (request for continued examination). See 37 CFR 1.313(c)(2).

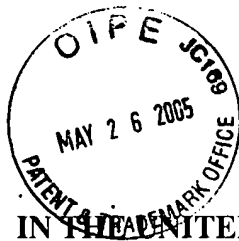
Petitioner is advised that the issue fee paid on December 6, 2004 in the above-identified application cannot be refunded. If, however, the above-identified application is again allowed, petitioner may request that it be applied towards the issue fee required by the new Notice of Allowance.¹

Telephone inquiries should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3218.

This matter is being referred to Technology Center AU 2857 for processing of the request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 and for consideration of the concurrently filed Information Disclosure Statement.


Frances Hicks
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy

¹ The request to apply the issue fee to the new Notice may be satisfied by completing and returning the new Issue Fee Transmittal Form PTOL-85(b), which includes the following language thereon: "Commissioner for Patents is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above." Petitioner is advised that, whether a fee is indicated as being due or not, the Issue Fee Transmittal Form must be completed and timely submitted to avoid abandonment. Note the language in bold text on the first page of the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due (PTOL-85).



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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Notice of Allowability mailed September 16, 2005, the Examiner indicates:

[T]he prior art of record does not suggest or disclose the claimed combination of method steps, most notably the claimed "storing data and a substantially unique identification code of each integrated circuit device . . . the data indicating a

process flow within the manufacturing process for each integrated circuit device . . . [and] directing the integrated circuit devices identified as having a process flow within the manufacturing process different from the process flow of the data stored of the integrated circuit devices to another process.”

I the Notice of Allowability mailed February 28, 2005, the Examiner indicates:

Applicant has filed an IDS with two new pieces of art for consideration:
a) Beffa (US 6,788,993 B2); and b) Moon et al. (US 5,326,709). Beffa has effective priority to 2/17/97 and appears to have the same inventor/assignee as the instant claimed invention. Moon et al. has priority to 1992.

The instant claimed invention, most notably independent claims 1, 14 and 19, particularly refer to the following:

As per independent claim 1:

evaluating the data for each integrated circuit device of the integrated circuit devices to the data for manufacturing process data stored for each integrated circuit device;
Identifying integrated circuit devices having a process flow within the manufacturing process different from the process flow of the data stored of the integrated circuit device; and
Directing the integrated circuit devices identified as having a process flow within the manufacturing process different from the process flow of the data stored of the integrated circuit devices to another process.

As per independent claim 14:

evaluating the data for each integrated circuit device of the integrated circuit device assemblies identifying any integrated circuit devices having undergone any manufacturing process different from the indicated manufacturing processes of the stored data for each integrated circuit device, subjecting to further processing the integrated circuit devices of the plurality of integrated circuit devices identified as having undergone a manufacturing process different from the indicated manufacturing processes of its stored data;

As per independent claim 19:

evaluating data for each integrated circuit device of the plurality of integrated circuit devices in each of the plurality of multi-chip modules identifying any multi-chip modules having integrated circuit devices having undergone a manufacturing process that is different from the desired manufacturing processes;
redirecting any multi-chip modules identified as having integrated circuit devices having undergone the manufacturing process that is different from the desired manufacturing processes.

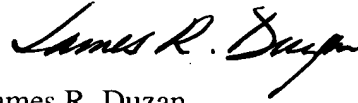
Though newly cited Beffa does teach (e.g. see claims 1 and 3) a “manufacturing process for grouping a plurality of integrated circuit devices... and storing data in association with an individual identification code... wherein storing data comprises storing data indicating one or more semiconductor wafers... have been misprocessed,” he does not evaluate the data for each integrated circuit device and identify those devices having a process flow different from the process flow of the data stored therein, nor does he direct (or subject to further processing or redirect) the integrated circuit devices identified as having a process flow... different from the process flow of the data stored... to another process.

The claimed combination of process or method steps, most particularly the emphasized claimed steps above, are not suggested or disclosed, either alone or in combination, by any prior art of record, including newly cited Beffa and Moon et al.

Applicants concur with the reasons as stated by the Examiner insofar as they comprise a summary, and are exemplary and not limiting. However, the independent claims as allowed include other and different language than that specified by the Examiner, and the allowed dependent claims include other and further features and elements. Accordingly, the scope of the claims must be determined from the literal language of each as a whole, as well as equivalents thereof.

Serial No. 10/600,148

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Duzan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

James R. Duzan

Registration No. 28,393

Attorney for Applicant(s)

TRASKBRITT

P.O. Box 2550

Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2550

Telephone: 801-532-1922

Date: May 26, 2005

JRD/ps:lmh

Document in ProLaw